

For Reference

NOT TO BE TAKEN FROM THIS ROOM

For Reference

NOT TO BE TAKEN FROM THIS ROOM

Ex LIBRIS
UNIVERSITATIS
ALBERTAEASIS





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019 with funding from
University of Alberta Libraries

https://archive.org/details/MacLeod1966_0

EXPLICIT ESTIMATES FOR SOME FUNCTIONS
OF NUMBER THEORY

by

ROBERT A. MacLEOD

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE
OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
EDMONTON, ALBERTA

SEPTEMBER, 1966

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

The undersigned certify that they have
read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies
for acceptance, a thesis entitled "EXPLICIT ESTIMATES
FOR SOME FUNCTIONS OF NUMBER THEORY", submitted by
ROBERT A. MacLEOD in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

(i)

ABSTRACT

An integer is called square-free, or quadratfrei, if it is not divisible by the square of any prime. In the first chapter we use known estimates for $M(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n)$ to investigate the function

$$Q(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} |\mu(n)|, \quad \text{the number of square-free integers less than}$$

or equal to x . A typical result is

$$|Q(x) - \frac{6}{\pi^2} x| \leq \sqrt{3} \left(1 - \frac{6}{\pi^2} \right) \sqrt{x}$$

for all x , with equality only at $x = 3$.

In the second chapter, with the help of the results in the first, we obtain a new estimate for $M(x)$, namely

$$|M(x)| < \frac{1}{80} x, \quad \text{for } x \geq 1114.$$

We apply this estimate to examine the sum $g(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n}$. In

particular we show that whereas $g(x)$ changes sign infinitely often,

$$g_1(x) = \sum_{14 \leq n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n} \quad \text{is always positive.}$$

In the third chapter, we examine the function $\Phi(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \varphi(n)$ where $\varphi(n)$ is Euler's function. We show that $\frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2}$, which is

(ii)

asymptotic to $\frac{3}{2}$, takes on its minimum (over all positive integers)

at $x = 1276$, the second integer x for which $\Phi(x) - \frac{3}{2}x^2$ is negative.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to my supervisor,
Professor Leo Moser, for his interest, encouragement,
and advice, and to my fellow students in number theory
for numerous discussions of the material herein contained.
Thanks also are due to Dr. J. W. Moon, who has eliminated
uncounted barbarisms from the original manuscript.

I should like to thank the following for
providing financial support: the University of
Alberta, the National Research Council, and the
Francis F. Reeve Foundation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
ABSTRACT	(i)
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	(iii)
 CHAPTER I: SQUAREFREE INTEGERS	1
§1.1 Introduction	1
§1.2 Survey of results	1
§1.3 The difference $Q(x) - \frac{6}{\pi^2}x$. . .	7
 CHAPTER II: ON $M(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n)$	14
§2.1 Introduction	14
§2.2 The method	14
§2.3 Main result	17
§2.4 Application	22
 CHAPTER III: THE MINIMUM OF $\frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2}$	29
§3.1 Introduction	29
§3.2 Proof of (3.9)	32
§3.3 The computer work	39
 APPENDIX I: FORTRAN IV PROGRAMS FOR EXAMINING	
$\frac{1}{x^2} \sum_{n \leq x} \varphi(n) - \frac{3}{\pi^2}$	45
 APPENDIX II: VALUES OF N FOR WHICH $R(N) < 0$. . .	50
BIBLIOGRAPHY	52

CHAPTER 1

SQUAREFREE INTEGERS

1. Introduction. An integer n is said to be k -free if $d^k \mid n$ is false for every integer $d \neq \pm 1$ (when $k = 2$, the terms 'square-free' and 'quadratfrei' are normally used). We shall restrict our attention henceforth to positive integers.

Let q_n denote the n^{th} square-free integer, and $Q(x)$ the number of squarefree integers less than or equal to x . Then

$$Q(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} |\mu(n)| ,$$

where $\mu(n)$ denotes the Möbius function. We shall give a brief survey of known results on q_n and $Q(x)$, and then proceed to examine the difference $Q(x) - \frac{6}{\pi^2} x$.

2. Survey of results. From the simple result that

$$Q(x) = \frac{6}{\pi^2} x + O(x^{1/2}) \tag{1.1}$$

(we shall prove stronger results later) it follows that

$$q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^{1/2}) . \tag{1.2}$$

In 1941, E. Fogels [8] improved this to

$$q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^{2/5 + \epsilon}) \quad \text{for every } \epsilon > 0 . \quad (1.3)$$

K. F. Roth [22], using an argument which he attributed to Estermann, showed that

$$q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^{1/3}) \quad (1.4)$$

and upon strengthening the argument was able to obtain

$$q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^{3/13} (\log n)^{4/13}) . \quad (1.5)$$

H.-E. Richert [20] improved this to

$$q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^{2/9} \log n) . \quad (1.6)$$

Using slightly different arguments R. A. Rankin [19] obtained

$$q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^{\gamma+\epsilon}) \quad \text{where } \gamma = 0.22198 \dots . \quad (1.7)$$

H. Halberstam and Roth [10] have generalized the argument giving $q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^{1/3})$ to obtain the following: if $q_k(n)$ denotes the n^{th} k -free number, then

$$q_k(n+1) - q_k(n) = O(n^{1/(k+1)}) . \quad (1.8)$$

In the other direction, P. Erdos [4] has shown that, for infinitely many i ,

$$q_{i+1} - q_i > (1 + o(1)) \frac{\pi^2}{6} \frac{\log q_i}{\log \log q_i} . \quad (1.9)$$

He states that it appears to be very difficult to improve on the constant $\frac{\pi^2}{6}$, and suggests that it may indeed be that, for $i > i_0$,

$$q_{i+1} - q_i < (1+\epsilon) \frac{\pi^2}{6} \frac{\log q_i}{\log \log q_i} \quad \text{for every } \epsilon > 0 . \quad (1.10)$$

He also conjectures that, for every α ,

$$\sum_{q_{k+1} < x} (q_{k+1} - q_k)^\alpha = c_\alpha x + o(x) . \quad (1.11)$$

This, if true, would imply

$$q_{n+1} - q_n = O(n^\epsilon) , \quad \text{for every } \epsilon > 0 , \quad (1.12)$$

but he can prove it only for $\alpha < A$, where A is a constant between 2 and 3.

R. Bellman and H. N. Shapiro [1] consider a slightly different problem, and obtain the following results:

1. If $\varphi(x)$ is any function such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(x) = \infty$,

then for almost all n the interval $(n, n+\varphi(n))$ contains a squarefree integer.

2. If $\varphi(x)$ is any strictly monotone function such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(x) = \infty$, then $Q(n, n+\varphi(n))$ has normal order $\frac{6}{\pi^2} \varphi(n)$; that is, for every $\epsilon > 0$ and $n > n(\epsilon)$,

$$(1-\epsilon) \frac{6}{\pi^2} \varphi(n) < Q(n, n+\varphi(n)) < (1+\epsilon) \frac{6}{\pi^2} \varphi(n) \quad (1.13)$$

where, of course, $Q(n, n+\varphi(n))$ denotes the number of squarefree integers between n and $n+\varphi(n)$.

In a different direction, E. Cohen and R. L. Robinson [3] have examined the distribution of k -free integers in residue classes. They have shown that the k -free integers are equi-distributed $(\bmod h)$ if and only if every prime factor of h divides h at least to the k^{th} power. (A set of integers is said to be equi-distributed $(\bmod h)$ if the density is the same in each residue class $(\bmod h)$ where the integers occur at all.)

T. Estermann [6] found that the number of representations of n as the sum of two square-free integers is

$$cn\rho(n) + O(n^{2/3} + \epsilon) \quad (1.14)$$

where $c = \prod_p (1 - \frac{2}{p^2})$ and $\rho(n) = \prod_{p^2 | n} (1 + \frac{1}{p^2-2})$. Cohen [2] was able to improve the error term to $O(n^{2/3} \log^2 n)$.

Considerable work has been done on pattern problems for square-free integers. W. Sierpinski [26] showed in 1959 that, for infinitely many k , the integers $4k+1$, $4k+2$, and $4k+3$ are all square-free. I was able to generalize this to show that any pattern of square-free and non-square-free integers which occurs at all in the sequences of integers occurs infinitely often. However, considerably sharper results

had been discovered by S. S. Pillai [17] in 1936 and L. Mirsky [14], [15] in 1948 and 1949, but apparently overlooked by Sierpinski. They are the following.

Let d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{r-1} be a fixed set of positive integers, and for any prime p let $g(p)$ be the number of different residue classes $\pmod{p^2}$ among $0, d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{r-1}$. Let $N(x)$ be the number of positive integers t such that $t, t+d_1, \dots, t+d_{r-1}$ are all squarefree and $\leq x$. Pillai showed that

$$N(x) = Ax + O\left(\frac{x}{\log x}\right) \quad (1.15)$$

where $A = \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{g(p)}{2}\right)$. In particular, for $r = 2$, $d_1 = 1$, $d_2 = 2$ (i.e. for Sierpinski's problem) $A = \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{3}{2}\right) \approx 0.12$ so that for about half of all k 's the integers $4k+1, 4k+2$, and $4k+3$ are all square-free.

Mirsky generalized Pillai's results as follows: let $a_1, \dots, a_\ell; b_1, \dots, b_m$ be any distinct positive integers; let $H(x) = H_r(x; a_1, \dots, a_\ell, b_1, \dots, b_m)$ be the number of systems of positive integers $n+a_1, \dots, n+a_\ell; n+b_1, \dots, n+b_m$ not exceeding x and such that the first ℓ are r -free while the remaining m are not. Then

$$H(x) = hx + O(x^{2/(r+1)} + \epsilon), \quad (1.16)$$

$$\text{where } h = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } D(p^r; a_1, \dots, a_\ell) = p^r \text{ for some } p \\ h_r(a_1, \dots, a_\ell; b_1, \dots, b_m) = \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \sum_{\substack{1 \leq v_1 < \dots < v_k \leq m}} \prod_p & \\ \left\{ 1 - \frac{D(p^r; a_1, \dots, a_\ell; b_{v_1}, \dots, b_{v_k})}{p^r} \right\} \text{ otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and $D(\sigma; n_1, \dots, n_s)$ denotes the number of different residue classes mod σ represented by n_1, n_2, \dots, n_s . As a special case, consider blocks. By a block of s integers with respect to a class C , we mean a sequence of s consecutive integers, say $n, n+1, \dots, n+s-1$, in C , while $n-1$ and $n+s$ are not in C . Let $Q_{r,s}(x)$ denote the number of blocks of s r -free integers $\leq x$ and $V_{r,s}(x)$ the number of blocks of s r -integers (i.e. non- r -free integers) $\leq x$. Then

$$(i) \text{ for } r \geq 2, s \geq 2^r, Q_{r,s}(x) = 0;$$

$$(ii) \text{ for } r \geq 2, 1 \leq s \leq 2^r-1, Q_{r,s}(x) = q_{r,s} x + O(x^{2/(r+1)} + \epsilon)$$

where

$$q_{r,s} = \begin{cases} \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{s}{p}\right) - 2 \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{s+1}{p}\right) + \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{s+2}{p}\right), & 1 \leq s \leq 2^r-2, \\ \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{2^r-1}{p}\right), & s = 2^r-1, \end{cases}$$

$$(q_{r,s} > 0);$$

$$(iii) \text{ for } r \geq 2, s \geq 1, V_{r,s}(x) = v_{r,s} x + O(x^{2/(r+1)} + \epsilon) \text{ where}$$

$$v_{r,s} = \sum_{k=0}^s (-1)^k g(k) \quad p > (s+1)^{1/r} \left(1 - \frac{k+2}{p^r}\right)$$

and

$$g(k) = g_{r,s}(k) = \sum_{1 \leq v_1 < \dots < v_s \leq s} \prod_{p \leq (s+1)^{1/r}} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D(p^r; 0, v_1, \dots, v_r^{s+1})}{p^k} \right\}$$

$$(v_{r,s} > 0).$$

In particular, for fixed t the number of $q_i < x$ satisfying $q_{i+1} - q_i = t$ is known.

We remark also that K. Rogers [21] has shown that

$$\frac{Q(x)}{x} \geq \frac{53}{88}, \text{ with equality only at } x = 176, \quad (1.17)$$

that is, the Schnirelmann density of the square-free integers is less than their density, $\frac{6}{\pi^2}$.

3. The difference $Q(x) - \frac{6}{\pi^2} x$. Define $\mu_r(n)$ to be 0

or 1 according as n is or is not r -free, for $r = 2, 3, \dots$.

Then in particular $\mu_2(n) = |\mu(n)| = \mu^2(n)$. Define $Q_r(x)$ by

$$Q_r(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \mu_r(n).$$

In particular, $Q_2(x) = Q(x)$. Then, letting $[x]$ denote the greatest

integer $\leq x$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_r(x) &= [x] - \left[\frac{x}{2^r} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{3^r} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{5^r} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{7^r} \right] - \dots + \left[\frac{x}{(2 \cdot 3)^r} \right] + \left[\frac{x}{(2 \cdot 5)^r} \right] + \\
 &\quad \dots - \left[\frac{x}{(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5)^r} \right] - \dots \\
 &= \sum_{d^r \leq x} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{d^r} \right] . \tag{1.18}
 \end{aligned}$$

Alternately, since $\sum_{d^r | n} \mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n \text{ is } r\text{-free,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$

(for if $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k} n_1$, where $\alpha_i \geq r$ and n_1 is r -free, then the sum is $1 - \binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{2} - \dots = (1-1)^k = 0$), we have

$$\sum_{d^r | n} \mu_r(d) = \mu_r(n) .$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_r(x) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{d^r | n} \mu(d) = \sum_{kd^r \leq x} \mu(d) = \sum_{d^r \leq x} \mu(d) \left(\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ d^r | n}} 1 \right) \\
 &= \sum_{d^r \leq x} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{d^r} \right] . \tag{1.19}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$|Q_r(x) - \frac{1}{\zeta(r)} x| \leq \left| \sum_{d^r \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d^r} \right\} \right| + x \left| \sum_{d^r > x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^r} \right|, \quad (1.20)$$

where $\{x\} = x - [x]$ is the fractional part of x . Hence, defining

$R_r(x)$ by $R_r(x) = Q_r(x) - \frac{1}{\zeta(r)} x$, we have

$$|R_r(x)| \leq x^{1/r} + \frac{1}{r-1} x^{1/r} + 1 = \frac{r}{r-1} x^{1/r} + 1, \quad (1.21)$$

since

$$\sum_{d^r > x} \frac{1}{d^r} < \frac{1}{x} + \int_{x^{1/r}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{u^r} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{r-1} \frac{x^{1/r}}{x}.$$

For $r = 2$, the best improvement in the constant 2 which appears in (1.21) was $\frac{12}{2}$ by Rogers [21]. Our main object in this chapter will be to obtain further improvements on this.

Let $M(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n)$. R. D. von Sterneck [22] showed that

$$|M(x)| < \frac{1}{9} x + 8 \quad (1.22)$$

and R. Hackel [9] improved this to

$$|M(x)| < \frac{1}{26} x + 155, \quad \text{for all } x. \quad (1.23)$$

G. Neubauer [16] has shown that

$$|M(x)| < \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{x} , \quad \text{for } 200 < x \leq 10^8 . \quad (1.24)$$

Combining (1.23) and (1.24) we obtain

$$|M(x) + 2| < \frac{1}{25} x , \quad \text{for } x > 200 , \quad (1.25)$$

and one readily checks that (1.25) holds for $x \geq 100$. Thus, for $x \geq 100^r$ and $r > 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{d^r > x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^r} \right| &= \left| \sum_{d^r > x} (M(d) + 2) \left(\frac{1}{d^r} - \frac{1}{(d+1)^r} \right) - \frac{M(x^{1/r}) + 2}{([x^{1/r}] + 1)^r} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{25} \sum_{d^r > x} d \left(\frac{1}{d^r} - \frac{1}{(d+1)^r} \right) + \frac{1}{25} \frac{x^{1/r}}{x} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{25} \left(\frac{x^{1/r}}{x} + \frac{1}{r-1} \frac{x^{1/r}}{x} + \frac{x^{1/r}}{x} \right) = \frac{1}{25} \left(2 + \frac{1}{r-1} \right) \frac{x^{1/r}}{x} . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$x \left| \sum_{d^r > x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^r} \right| \leq \frac{1}{25} \left(2 + \frac{1}{r-1} \right) x^{1/r} , \quad \text{for } x \geq 100^r . \quad (1.26)$$

Let

$$A(x) = \sum_{\substack{d \leq x \\ \mu(d)=1}} 1 , \quad B(x) = \sum_{\substack{d \leq x \\ \mu(d)=-1}} 1 , \quad \text{and} \quad C(x) = \max(A(x), B(x)) .$$

Then clearly

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \{g(x, d)\} \right| \leq C(x) \quad \text{for any } g .$$

Now

$$C(x) = \frac{1}{2} (A(x) + B(x)) + \frac{1}{2} |A(x) - B(x)| = \frac{1}{2} Q(x) + \frac{1}{2} M(x) .$$

Thus

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \{g(x, d)\} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} Q(x) + \frac{1}{2} M(x) , \quad (1.27)$$

whence

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{d^r \leq x \\ d^r}} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x^{1/r}}{d^r} \right\} \right| \leq \frac{13}{25} x^{1/r} + 1 , \quad (1.28)$$

and

$$|R_r(x)| \leq \frac{16}{25} x^{1/r} + 1 , \quad x \geq 100^r , \quad (1.29)$$

by (1.28) and (1.26). In particular,

$$\begin{aligned} Q(x) - \frac{6}{\pi^2} x &\leq \frac{16}{25} x^{1/2} + 1 \\ &\leq 0.65 x^{1/2} , \quad \text{for } x \geq 100^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Using this in (1.27) we obtain

$$C(x) \leq \left(\frac{3}{\pi^2} + \frac{1}{50} \right) x + 0.325 x^{1/2} , \quad \text{for } x \geq 100^2 .$$

Hence,

$$\left| \sum_{d^r \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d^r} \right\} \right| < \frac{1}{3} x^{1/r} + 0.325 x^{1/2r}, \quad \text{for } x \geq 100^r \quad (1.30)$$

and

$$|R_r(x)| \leq \frac{28}{75} x^{1/r} + 0.325 x^{1/2r}, \quad \text{for } x \geq 100^r. \quad (1.31)$$

For $r = 2$, using (1.31) and examining the early cases, we find that

$$|R_2(x)| \leq \sqrt{3} \left(1 - \frac{6}{\pi^2} \right) x^{1/2} \quad \text{for all } x, \quad (1.32)$$

with equality only at $x = 3$ ($\sqrt{3}(1 - \frac{6}{\pi^2}) = 0.679 \dots$), and that

$$|R_2(x)| < \frac{1}{2} x^{1/2} \quad \text{for } x \geq 8. \quad (1.33)$$

The first place where $R_2(x)$ becomes negative is at $x = 28$.

A. M. Vaidya [29] apparently has shown (the details have not yet been published) that $R_2(x)$ changes sign infinitely often, and that in fact for every $\epsilon > 0$ and infinitely many n , $R_2(n) > n^{1/4 - \epsilon}$, and for infinitely many n , $R_2(n) < -n^{1/4 - \epsilon}$; from this it follows that, for infinitely many n , $Q(n) = [\frac{6}{\pi^2} n+1]$.

We have seen that

$$R_2(x) = O(x^{1/2}). \quad (1.34)$$

It is well known that $M(x) = O\left(\frac{x}{\log^\alpha x}\right)$ for arbitrary α (see e.g.

E. Landau [11], p. 57). One can readily show from this that

$$R_2(x) = o\left(\frac{x^{1/2}}{\log^\alpha x}\right) \quad \text{for arbitrary } \alpha . \quad (1.35)$$

In the opposite direction, C. J. A. Evelyn and E. H. Linfoot [7] have shown that

$$R_2(x) \neq o(x^{1/4}) . \quad (1.36)$$

CHAPTER 2

On the Sum $M(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n)$

1. Introduction. Our object here will be to obtain the result

$$|M(x)| < \frac{x}{80} \quad \text{for } x \geq 1114 , \quad (2.1)$$

an improvement of the results already cited of von Sterneck [27] and Hackel [9]. We first observe that, from Neubauer's [16] result that

$$|M(x)| < \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{x} \quad \text{for } 200 < x \leq 10^8 , \quad (2.2)$$

we can prove (2.1) for $1114 \leq x \leq 10^8$. For since $\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{x} < \frac{x}{80}$ for $x > 1600$, (2.1) follows for $1600 < x \leq 10^8$, and one obtains by simple checking that (2.1) also holds for $1114 \leq x \leq 1600$; thus, (2.1) remains to be verified for $x > 10^8$.

2. The method. We outline the method to be used, which is a refinement of that of von Sterneck. Consider the function

$$f(x) = [x] - [\frac{x}{2}] - [\frac{x}{3}] - [\frac{x}{5}] + [\frac{x}{30}] .$$

Since

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{d} \right] = 1 ,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{md} \right] &= \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{m}} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{md} \right] + \sum_{\frac{x}{m} < d \leq x} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{md} \right] \\ &= 1 + 0 = 1 , \quad \text{for } x \geq m , \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) f\left(\frac{x}{d}\right) = 1 , \quad \text{for } x \geq 30 .$$

Since $f(x) = 1$ for $1 \leq x < 6$ and 0 or 1 for $x \geq 6$, we have
 $f\left(\frac{x}{d}\right) = 1$ for $d > \frac{x}{6}$, so that

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left(1 - f\left(\frac{x}{d}\right)\right) \right| \leq \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{6}} |\mu(d)| = Q\left(\frac{x}{6}\right) .$$

Thus,

$$|M(x) + 1| \leq Q\left(\frac{x}{6}\right) , \quad \text{for } x \geq 30 . \quad (2.3)$$

We have from Chapter 1 that

$$\left| Q(x) - \frac{6}{\pi^2} x \right| < \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{x} , \quad \text{for } x \geq 8 . \quad (2.4)$$

It follows that

$$0.600x < Q(x) < 0.615x \quad \text{for } x \geq 5000 , \quad (2.5)$$

and one readily checks that (2.5) holds for $x \geq 475$. Similarly,

$$Q(x) < 0.635x \quad \text{for } x \geq 75. \quad (2.6)$$

Using (2.5) in (2.3) we obtain

$$|M(x) + 1| \leq 0.103x \quad \text{for } x \geq 2950 \quad (2.7)$$

and, by (2.2), for $x > 200$. If we further observe that $f(x) = 1$ for $7 \leq x < 10$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |M(x) + 1| &\leq Q\left(\frac{x}{6}\right) - Q\left(\frac{x}{7}\right) + Q\left(\frac{x}{10}\right) \\ &< 0.079x, \quad \text{for } x > 200. \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

Using the function

$$f_1(x) = [x] - [\frac{x}{2}] - [\frac{x}{3}] - [\frac{x}{5}] + [\frac{x}{15}] - [\frac{x}{30}]$$

and similar refinements to that used in deriving (2.8), one can obtain

$$|M(x) + 2| < 0.04x, \quad \text{for } x > 200, \quad (2.9)$$

which is the same as (125). It seems difficult to get a fairly simple function like $f_1(x)$ which will substantially improve (2.9).

If we examine the characteristics of a 'good' function f , we see that what we would like is a function which takes the value 1 for $1 \leq x \leq n$ for fairly large n , and then does not differ too widely from 1 thereafter. We shall employ the techniques of E. Waage ([30] and [31]) to obtain such a function.

3. Main result. In line with Waage, we define

$$v_k(x) = \left[\frac{x}{k} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{k+1} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{k(k+1)} \right]$$

and use the symbol

$$(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m; \ell_1, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_t)$$

to stand for the function

$$\left[\frac{x}{n_1} \right] + \left[\frac{x}{n_2} \right] + \dots + \left[\frac{x}{n_m} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{\ell_1} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{\ell_2} \right] - \dots - \left[\frac{x}{\ell_t} \right] .$$

Let

$$U_2(x) = v_1(x) = (1; 2, 2) ,$$

$$U_5(x) = v_1(x) + v_2(x) = (1; 2, 3, 6) ,$$

$$U_6(x) = U_5(x) - v_5(x) = (1, 30; 2, 3, 5) \quad (\text{this is our } f(x)) ,$$

$$U_{10}(x) = U_6(x) + v_6(x) = (1, 6, 30; 2, 3, 5, 7, 42) .$$

Define $U_s(x)$, $U_f(x)$, $v(x)$, and $v'(x)$, respectively, as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} U_s(x) &= U_{10}(x) - v_5(\frac{x}{6}) - v_6(\frac{x}{6}) + v_2(\frac{x}{35}) - v_1(\frac{x}{105}) - v_6(\frac{x}{30}) - v_5(\frac{x}{42}) \\ &= (1, 6, 70; 2, 3, 5, 7, 210) , \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} U_f(x) &= U_s(x) + v_{10}(x) - v_2(\frac{x}{35}) - v_{21}(\frac{x}{5}) \\ &= (1, 6, 10, 2310; 2, 3, 5, 7, 11) , \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x) &= u_s(x) + u_1\left(\frac{x}{10}\right) + u_2\left(\frac{x}{10}\right) + u_1\left(\frac{x}{30}\right) + u_1\left(\frac{x}{14}\right) + 2u_1\left(\frac{x}{28}\right) \\
 &\quad + 4u_4\left(\frac{x}{14}\right) - u_1\left(\frac{x}{70}\right) - 2u_1\left(\frac{x}{140}\right) + u_1\left(\frac{x}{21}\right) + u_1\left(\frac{x}{35}\right) + u_2\left(\frac{x}{35}\right) \\
 &= (1, 6, 10, 14, 21, 35; 2, 3, 5, 7, 30, 30, 30, 42, 42, 70, 70, 70, 70, 70, 105, 210, 210),
 \end{aligned}$$

$$u'(x) = u_2\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) + u_6\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) - u_{14}(x) = (10; 14, 35).$$

Let R_1, R_2, R_3 , and R_4 be respectively the sets

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\{11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47\}, \{18, 70, 90, 90, 118, 134, 142, 146, 162, 177, 183, 213\}, \\
 &\{113, 131, 139, 154, 170, 173, 191\}, \{18, 18, 54, 90, 90, 105, 107, 108, 109, 700, 700, 700, 700\},
 \end{aligned}$$

Then the function $e(x)$ which we shall use is defined by the formula

$$\begin{aligned}
 e(x) &= u(x) - \sum_{r \in R_1} u_f\left(\frac{x}{r}\right) + u'\left(\frac{x}{7}\right) + 2u'\left(\frac{x}{14}\right) + u'\left(\frac{x}{17}\right) + u_5\left(\frac{x}{42}\right) - u_5\left(\frac{x}{79}\right) \\
 &\quad - u_5\left(\frac{x}{101}\right) - u_5\left(\frac{x}{103}\right) - u_5\left(\frac{x}{137}\right) - u_5\left(\frac{x}{163}\right) - u_5\left(\frac{x}{167}\right) + 2u_6\left(\frac{x}{30}\right) + \sum_{r \in R_2} u_1\left(\frac{x}{r}\right) \\
 &\quad - \sum_{r \in R_3} u_1\left(\frac{x}{r}\right) + \sum_{r \in R_4} u_2\left(\frac{x}{r}\right) - 2u_2\left(\frac{x}{1400}\right) + u_3\left(\frac{x}{18}\right) - u_3\left(\frac{x}{80}\right) + u_3\left(\frac{x}{108}\right) + 3u_4\left(\frac{x}{108}\right) \\
 &\quad + u_5\left(\frac{x}{3}\right) - 3u_8\left(\frac{x}{200}\right) + 6u_9\left(\frac{x}{60}\right) - 3u_9\left(\frac{x}{115}\right) + u_{10}\left(\frac{x}{21}\right) - 3u_{10}\left(\frac{x}{46}\right) + 3u_{10}\left(\frac{x}{92}\right) \\
 &\quad - 3u_{10}\left(\frac{x}{103}\right) - 2u_{14}\left(\frac{x}{20}\right) + u_{18}\left(\frac{x}{18}\right) - 2u_{19}\left(\frac{x}{23}\right) + u_{21}\left(\frac{x}{14}\right) - 2u_{23}\left(\frac{x}{10}\right) - u_{26}\left(\frac{x}{12}\right) \\
 &\quad + u_{27}\left(\frac{x}{11}\right) + 3u_{33}\left(\frac{x}{10}\right) - u_{34}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + u_{44}\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) - 2u_{48}\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) + u_{49}\left(\frac{x}{8}\right) + u_{50}\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) -
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - u_{50}(\frac{x}{10}) - u_{52}(\frac{x}{10}) - u_{53}(x) - 2u_{58}(\frac{x}{100}) - u_{59}(x) + u_{60}(x) + 3u_{60}(\frac{x}{10}) \\
 & - u_{67}(x) + 3u_{67}(\frac{x}{100}) + u_{68}(\frac{x}{5}) - u_{68}(\frac{x}{10}) + u_{70}(x) + u_{72}(x) - u_{81}(\frac{x}{20}) \\
 & - u_{83}(x) - u_{89}(x) + u_{90}(\frac{x}{2}) + u_{94}(\frac{x}{10}) - u_{96}(\frac{x}{3}) - u_{97}(x) + u_{106}(x) \\
 & + u_{108}(x) + 2u_{109}(\frac{x}{3}) - u_{114}(\frac{x}{2}) - u_{121}(x) + u_{126}(x) - u_{139}(\frac{x}{2}) - u_{143}(\frac{x}{2}) \\
 & - u_{144}(\frac{x}{20}) - u_{149}(x) + u_{150}(x) - u_{157}(x) - u_{158}(x) - u_{165}(x) + u_{178}(x) \\
 & + u_{180}(x) - u_{193}(x) - u_{195}(x) + u_{196}(x) - u_{199}(x) - u_{200}(x) + u_{210}(x) \\
 & - u_{263}(x) - u_{264}(x) + u_{264}(\frac{x}{10}) - u_{266}(x) + u_{270}(x) + 3u_{270}(\frac{x}{20}) - u_{283}(x) \\
 & - u_{320}(x) \\
 & = \sum_{n=1}^{218} \mu(n)[\frac{x}{n}] + \sum_{p \in P} [\frac{x}{p}] - \sum_{q \in Q} [\frac{x}{q}] ,
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 P = \{ & 220, 226, 226, 235, 237, 245, 250, 253, 259, 262, 262, 265, 267, 274, 278, \\
 & 287, 291, 294, 297, 300, 300, 301, 303, 309, 319, 326, 327, 329, 330, 334, \\
 & 340, 341, 346, 346, 382, 382, 392, 407, 411, 451, 473, 474, 489, 501, 506, \\
 & 506, 506, 510, 517, 530, 540, 540, 540, 540, 606, 618, 690, 690, 690, 720, \\
 & 720, 720, 800, 800, 822, 920, 920, 920, 940, 960, 978, 1002, 1133, 1133, 1133, \\
 & 1150, 1150, 1150, 1200, 1200, 1400, 1400, 1400, 1400, 1640, 1800, 1800, 1800, \\
 & 2380, 2640, 2862, 2900, 3540, 4556, 5060, 5060, 5060, 5520, 5520, 5900, 5900,
 \end{aligned}$$

6700, 6700, 6700, 6972, 8010, 8400, 8400, 8424, 8740, 8740, 9506, 10350, 10350,
10350, 11330, 11330, 11330, 11760, 11760, 13200, 13200, 14400, 14400, 14400,
14762, 15180, 15180, 16002, 22350, 24806, 25122, 25500, 26220, 27390, 27560,
27936, 37442, 38220, 38920, 39800, 40200, 41184, 46920, 66420, 69432, 69960,
71022, 80372, 102720, 342200, 342200, 417600}

(2.10)

and

$Q = \{222, 225, 228, 230, 230, 231, 236, 236, 238, 240, 246, 252, 255, 258, 263, 266,$
 $268, 268, 270, 271, 280, 282, 283, 284, 286, 290, 292, 292, 310, 312, 315, 324,$
 $342, 345, 345, 354, 354, 366, 366, 370, 400, 410, 426, 426, 430, 432, 437, 437,$
 $460, 470, 490, 490, 500, 520, 595, 600, 600, 660, 680, 820, 820, 900, 950, 1012,$
 $1012, 1012, 1030, 1030, 1030, 1035, 1035, 1035, 1100, 1100, 1296, 1600, 1600,$
 $1600, 1620, 2100, 2100, 2100, 2100, 2310, 2650, 2800, 2800, 2880, 3600, 3600,$
 $3600, 3660, 4970, 5256, 5400, 5400, 5400, 5420, 5420, 5420, 5800, 5800, 6156,$
 $6468, 6800, 6800, 6800, 8316, 9900, 10120, 10120, 10120, 11342, 11220, 11220,$
 $11220, 11772, 12750, 19600, 22650, 23460, 23460, 25410, 30030, 31862, 32580,$
 $35970, 35970, 36600, 36600, 36600, 38612, 39270, 43890, 44310, 53130, 66990,$
 $71610, 73170, 85470, 89300, 94710, 99330, 108570, 455600, 455600, 455600,$
 $699600, 1463400, 1463400, 1463400\}.$

This rather complicated function was obtained by successively evaluating simpler functions by computer to see where they began to differ too much from 1, and adding in compensating simple functions to reduce the rate of growth.

Since there are 222 positive terms and 226 negative terms
in g ,

$$|e(x)| \leq 226 \quad \text{for all } x , \quad (2.11)$$

for when we remove the square brackets in e the function is identically zero by construction. Upon examining $e(x)$, we find that

$$e(x) = 1 , \quad \text{for } 1 \leq x < 219 \quad (2.12)$$

and

$$|e(x)-1| \leq k \quad \text{for } x < n , \quad (2.13)$$

where k and n are as given in the following table:

k	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
n	345	568	584	804	1237	1359	1391	1393	1416	1416	1417

k	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
n	5010	5011	5881	5882	16097	16100	16100	16103	26740

k	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
n	26750	26752	26754	26759	31397	46110	46110	46112	63611

k	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
n	67158	67159	67189	69258	69259	69263	82800	82800	82813

k	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	
n	85869	87542	87547	97006	97007	106591	up to	125000 .

Let N be the set of n 's in the above table. It follows that

$$|M(x)+4| \leq Q\left(\frac{x}{219}\right) + \sum_{n \in N} Q\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) + (226 - 45) Q\left(\frac{x}{12500}\right) . \quad (2.14)$$

Using (2.4) and (2.5) in (2.14) we obtain

$$|M(x)+4| \leq 0.01247 x , \quad \text{for } x > 10^8$$

or

$$|M(x)| < \frac{1}{80} x , \quad \text{for } x > 10^8 .$$

This completes the proof of (2.1).

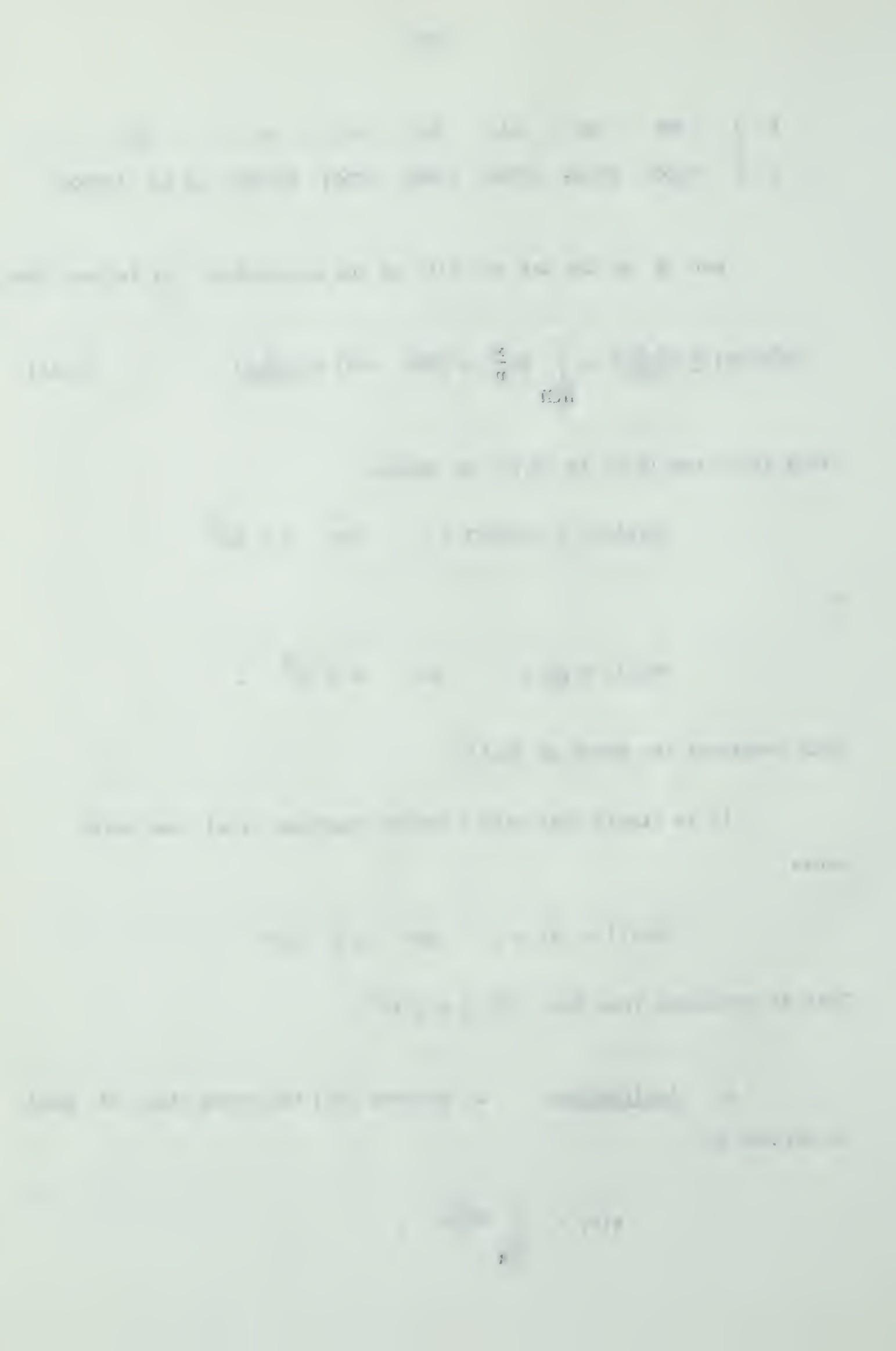
It is likely that with a better function $e(x)$ one could prove

$$|M(x)| < .01 x , \quad \text{for } x \geq 1137 .$$

This is certainly true for $1137 \leq x \leq 10^8$.

4. Application. S. Selberg [25] has shown that, if $g(x)$ is defined by

$$g(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n} ,$$



then $g(x)$ changes sign infinitely often. We show here that, on the other hand, $g_1(x)$, defined by

$$g_1(x) = \sum_{14 \leq n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n} = g(x) - \sum_{n \leq 13} \frac{\mu(n)}{n},$$

is always positive, or, what is the same thing, that $g(x)$ has its minimum at $x = 13$.

We note that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n} = 0 \quad (2.15)$$

(see e.g. Landau [11], page 159) and observe that

$$\sum_{n \leq 13} \frac{\mu(n)}{n} = -0.0773559 \dots \quad . \quad (2.16)$$

To show that

$$\left| \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n} \right| < 0.07 \quad \text{for } 200 < n \leq 10^8$$

we can use $|M(x)| < \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{x}$. Then, for $900 \leq x < 10^8$ we have

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} = \sum_{d \leq 900} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} + \sum_{900 < d \leq x-1} \frac{M(d)}{d(d+1)} - \frac{M(900)}{901} + \frac{M(x)}{x}.$$

Since

$$\sum_{d \leq 900} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} = 0.00328 \dots \text{ and } M(900) = 1$$

we obtain

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \right| = 0.00217 \dots + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{900 < d \leq x-1} \frac{1}{d^{3/2}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{x^{1/2}} \\ < 0.036, \text{ for } 900 \leq x \leq 10^8 . \quad (2.17)$$

One readily checks $g(x)$ for $1 \leq x \leq 900$, and we have that, for $1 \leq x \leq 10^8$, g assumes its minimum only at $x = 13$. So it remains only to check for $x > 10^8$.

Since

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{d} \right] = 1 ,$$

we have

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x} \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} . \quad (2.18)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} &= \sum_{\frac{x}{2} < d \leq x} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d} - 1 \right) + \sum_{\frac{x}{3} < d \leq \frac{x}{2}} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d} - 2 \right) + \dots + \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq \frac{x}{k-1}} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d} - (k-1) \right) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \\
 &= x \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} - \sum_{1 \leq t \leq k-1} M\left(\frac{x}{t}\right) + (k-1)M\left(\frac{x}{k}\right) + \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} .
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, using (2.18), it follows that

$$\sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq k-1} M\left(\frac{x}{t}\right) + \frac{k-1}{x} M\left(\frac{x}{k}\right) + \frac{1}{x} \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} , \quad x \geq k .$$

Hence,

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} = \frac{1}{kx} - \frac{1}{kx} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq k-1} M\left(k \frac{x}{t}\right) + \frac{k-1}{kx} M(x) + \frac{1}{kx} \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{kx}{d} \right\} , \quad \text{for } x \geq 1 . \quad (2.19)$$

Using (2.1) in (2.19), we obtain

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \right| \leq \frac{1}{kx} + \frac{1}{80} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq k-1} \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{80} \frac{k-1}{k} + \frac{1}{kx} \left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{kx}{d} \right\} \right| .$$

From (1.27), using (2.4), we have

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \right| \leq \frac{1}{kx} + \frac{1}{80} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq k-1} \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{80} \frac{k-1}{k} + \frac{0.305}{k} + \frac{1}{160k} , \quad \text{for } x > 60,000 .$$

Choosing k to be 20, we have

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \right| \leq 0.073, \quad \text{for } x > 60,000. \quad (2.20)$$

This suffices to complete the proof.

We have shown that, if

$$g(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n},$$

then $g(x)$ assumes its minimum at $x = 13$. If we define $g_r(x)$ by

$$g_r(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^r},$$

then it is rather easy to show that, at least for integer $r \geq 2$,

$g_r(x)$ assumes its minimum at $x = 5$. For

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^r} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^r} - \frac{1}{3^r} - \frac{1}{5^r} + \frac{1}{6^r} + \frac{1}{7^r} + \frac{1}{10^r} - \frac{1}{11^r} - \frac{1}{13^r} + \frac{1}{14^r} + \dots.$$

It is easy to see that the minimum cannot occur for $5 < x < 13$. For

$r \geq 4$, we shall show that

$$\frac{1}{6^r} + \frac{1}{10^r} > \frac{1}{7^r} + \sum_{d=11}^{\infty} \frac{1}{d^r}, \quad (2.21)$$

so that the sum beyond $x = 5$ is always positive, and hence the minimum

occurs at $x = 5$.

Since

$$\sum_{d=11}^{\infty} \frac{1}{d^r} < \int_{10}^{\infty} \frac{1}{u^r} du = \frac{10}{r-1} \frac{1}{10^r},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{7^r} - \frac{1}{10^r} + \sum_{d=11}^{\infty} \frac{1}{d^r} &< \frac{11-r}{r-1} \frac{1}{10^r} + \frac{1}{7^r} \leq \frac{2 \frac{1}{3}}{10^r} + \frac{1}{7^r} \\ &= \frac{2 \frac{1}{3}}{7^r} \left(\frac{7}{10}\right)^r + \frac{1}{7^r} \leq \frac{2 \frac{1}{3}}{10^r} \left(\frac{7}{10}\right)^r + \frac{1}{7^r} \\ &< \frac{1.6}{7^r} = \frac{1.6}{6^r} \left(\frac{6}{7}\right)^r \leq \frac{1.6}{6^r} \left(\frac{6}{7}\right)^4 \\ &< \frac{1}{6^r}. \end{aligned}$$

So the minimum occurs at $x = 5$ for all $r \geq 4$ (not just integer r).

One can use (2.1) to obtain

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^r} - \frac{1}{\zeta(r)} \right| \leq \frac{1}{80} \left(2 + \frac{1}{r-1}\right) \frac{1}{x^{r-1}}, \quad \text{for } x \geq 694 \text{ and } r > 1. \quad (2.22)$$

Using this to examine $r = 2$ and $r = 3$ we again find that the minimum occurs at $x = 5$. Indeed, it seems that there is an r_0 between 1 and 2, namely the solution of $\frac{1}{6^r} + \frac{1}{10^r} = \frac{1}{7^r} + \frac{1}{11^r} + \frac{1}{13^r}$, such

that, for $1 \leq r < r_o$ the minimum occurs at $x = 13$, for r_o there are twin minima at $x = 13$ and $x = 5$, and for $r > r_o$ the minimum occurs at $x = 5$.

CHAPTER 3

The Minimum of $\frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2}$

1. Introduction. Let $\varphi(n)$ denote Euler's function, so that

$$\varphi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) = n \sum_{d|n} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} .$$

Define

$$\Phi(x) \text{ by } \Phi(x) = \sum_{d \leq x} \varphi(d) .$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x) &= \sum_{d \leq x} d \sum_{k|d} \frac{\mu(k)}{k} = \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \sum_{n \leq \frac{x}{d}} n \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left[\frac{x}{d} \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x^2}{d^2} - 2 \frac{x}{d} \left[\frac{x}{d} \right] + \left[\frac{x}{d} \right]^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2} . \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} |\Phi(x) - \frac{3}{2} \frac{x^2}{\pi}| &\leq \frac{1}{2} x^2 \left| \sum_{d>x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} \right| + x \left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \right| + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\}^2 \right| + \frac{1}{2} . \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Using the trivial estimates

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{d>x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} \right| &\leq \frac{1}{[x]} \leq \frac{1}{x} + \frac{2}{x^2} , \\ \left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \right| &\leq \log x + 1 , \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\}^2 \right| \leq x ,$$

we have

$$|\Phi(x) - \frac{3}{2} \frac{x^2}{\pi}| \leq x \log x + 2x + \frac{3}{2} . \quad (3.3)$$

In particular, if $R(x) = \Phi(x) - \frac{3}{2} \frac{x^2}{\pi}$, then

$$R(x) = O(x \log x) . \quad (3.4)$$

Equation (3.4) was first proved by F. Mertens [13] in 1874, and even minor improvement seems hard to come by. In a long and difficult paper A. Walfisz [32] in 1953 showed that

$$R(x) = o(x (\log x)^{3/4} (\log \log x)^2) , \quad (3.5)$$

and A. Saltykov [23] in 1960 replaced $3/4$ by $2/3$ and 2 by $(1+\epsilon)$. In the opposite direction S. S. Pillai and S. D. Chowla [18] showed that

$$R(x) \neq o(x \log \log \log x) , \quad (3.6)$$

and also that

$$\sum_{n \leq x} R(n) = \frac{3}{2\pi^2} x^2 + o(x^2) . \quad (3.7)$$

J. J. Sylvester [28] conjectured that $R(x) > 0$, for all positive integers x , a result which holds for small x . But M. L. N. Sarma [24] showed that $R(820) < 0$, while P. Erdos and H. N. Shapiro [5] showed that $R(x)$ changes sign for infinitely many integers x , and indeed that there exists a positive constant c and infinitely many integers x such that

$$R(x) > cx \log \log \log \log x$$

and infinitely many integers x such that

$$R(x) < -cx \log \log \log \log x .$$

We consider here the problem of determining the S-density of $\Phi(x)$, that is, of finding

$$S(\Phi) = \min_{\text{integer } x > 0} \frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2} - \frac{3}{\pi^2} = \min_{\text{integer } x > 0} \frac{R(x)}{x^2}. \quad (3.8)$$

We show that this minimum occurs at $x = 1276$ (1276 is the second integer x for which $R(x) < 0$), where $\frac{R(x)}{x^2}$ has the value $\frac{274,433}{814,088} - \frac{3}{\pi^2} = -0.2466 \dots \times 10^{-4}$; this is done by showing that,

$$\left| \frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2} - \frac{3}{\pi^2} \right| < \left| \frac{\Phi(1276)}{(1276)^2} - \frac{3}{\pi^2} \right|, \quad \text{for } x > 150,000, \quad (3.9)$$

and then using the computer to check the remaining values of x .

2. Proof of (3.9) In what follows, let x be an integer.

(Note: If we dropped this requirement on x , the result (3.9) would often not hold for values of x just below smaller integers. However, if instead of the step function

$$\Phi(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \varphi(n)$$

we worked with the continuous function

$$\Phi_1(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \varphi(n) + \{x\} \varphi([x+1]),$$

(3.9) would hold for all $x \neq 1276$ by fairly straight forward extensions of the work herein.)

From (3.3), we have

$$\left| \frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2} - \frac{3}{\pi^2} \right| \leq \frac{2}{x} + \frac{\log x}{x} + \frac{3}{2x^2} < 0.24 \times 10^{-4} \quad \text{for } x > 650,000. \quad (3.10)$$

We could ask the computer to check up to 650,000, but the time required increases very rapidly with x , so to save computer time we shall reduce this to 150,000 by improving the trivial result (3.3).

We have

$$\sum_{d>x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} = \sum_{d>x} M(d) \left(\frac{1}{d^2} - \frac{1}{(d+1)^2} \right) - \frac{M(x)}{(x+1)^2}$$

so that, using (2.1),

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{d>x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^2} \right| &\leq \frac{1}{80} \sum_{d>x} d \left(\frac{1}{d^2} - \frac{1}{(d+1)^2} \right) + \frac{1}{80} \frac{1}{x} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{40} \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{80} \frac{1}{x} = \frac{3}{80} \frac{1}{x}, \quad \text{for } x \geq 1114. \quad (3.11) \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d} \right)^2 = \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d} \right)^2 + \sum_{\frac{x}{k} \leq d \leq x} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d} \right)^2 ,$$

where k will be an appropriately chosen integer. From (3.5) we have

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\}^2 \right| \leq \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} |\mu(d)| = Q\left(\frac{x}{k}\right) < 0.615 \frac{x}{k}, \quad \text{for } x \geq 475 k. \quad (3.12)$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x} \mu(d) \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\}^2 &= \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1} \mu(d) \left(\left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} - \left\{ \frac{x}{d+1} \right\} \right) \left(\left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} + \left\{ \frac{x}{d+1} \right\} \right) \\ &= M\left(\frac{x}{k}\right) \left\{ \frac{x}{\left[\frac{x}{k} \right] + 1} \right\}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now, for $\frac{x}{k} < d$, we have $\left[\frac{x}{d} \right] \leq k-1$, so that $\left[\frac{x}{d} \right] \neq \left[\frac{x}{d+1} \right]$, for at most k values of d , or, equivalently, $\left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} - \left\{ \frac{x}{d+1} \right\} = \frac{x}{d(d+1)}$ with at most k exceptions. Also, $\left| \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} + \left\{ \frac{x}{d+1} \right\} \right| < 2$, and for $\frac{x}{d} < d \leq x-1$ we can use the result that $|M(d)| < \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{d}$ for $\frac{x}{d} \geq 200$ and $x \leq 10^8$, i.e. for $200k \leq x \leq 10^8$. As our k will be 25, this gives

$$|M(d)| < \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{d}, \quad \text{for } 5000 \leq x \leq 10^8.$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left| \sum_{\substack{d \leq x \\ \frac{x}{k} < d \leq x}} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^2 \right| &\leq 2x \sum_{\substack{d \leq x-1 \\ \frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1}} \frac{|M(d)|}{d(d+1)} + k \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{x} + |M(\frac{x}{k})| \\
 &< x \sum_{\substack{d \leq x-1 \\ \frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{d(d+1)}} + \frac{1}{2} k \sqrt{x} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}} \sqrt{x} \\
 &\leq 2x \frac{\sqrt{k-1}}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{1}{2} k \sqrt{x} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}} \sqrt{x} \\
 &= \sqrt{x} \left(\frac{k}{2} + 2\sqrt{k} - 2 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}} \right), \quad \text{for } 5000 \leq x \leq 10^8. \quad (3.13)
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^2 \right| < 0.615 \frac{x}{k} + \sqrt{x} \left(\frac{k}{2} + 2\sqrt{k} - 2 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}} \right)$$

for $5000 \leq x \leq 10^8$ and $x \geq 475 k$.

When $k = 25$, the right hand side becomes $0.0246 x + 20.6 \sqrt{x}$, and

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)^2 \right| < 0.078 x, \quad \text{for } 150,000 \leq x \leq 10^8. \quad (3.14)$$

We now consider the sum

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left(\frac{x}{d}\right).$$

Writing

$$A_1(x) = \sum_{\substack{d \leq x \\ \mu(d)=1}} \frac{1}{d}, \quad B_1(x) = \sum_{\substack{d \leq x \\ \mu(d)=-1}} \frac{1}{d}, \quad \text{and} \quad C_1(x) = \max(A_1(x), B_1(x)),$$

we see that

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \right| \leq C_1(x). \quad (3.15)$$

Now, $C_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} (A_1(x) + B_1(x) + |A_1(x) - B_1(x)|)$, so that

$$C_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{|\mu(d)|}{d} + \frac{1}{2} \left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \right|. \quad (3.16)$$

From (2.15) we had

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \right| < 0.036 \quad \text{for } 900 \leq x \leq 10^8.$$

For $x \geq 900$ we have

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{|\mu(d)|}{d} = \sum_{d \leq 900} \frac{|\mu(d)|}{d} + \sum_{900 < d \leq x-1} \frac{Q(d)}{d(d+1)} + \frac{Q(x)}{x} - \frac{Q(900)}{901}.$$

Using (2.5), and observing that

$$\sum_{d \leq 900} \frac{|\mu(d)|}{d} = 5.178 \dots \quad \text{and} \quad Q(900) = 547,$$

we have

$$\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{|\mu(d)|}{d} \leq 0.615 \log x + 1.012, \quad \text{for } x \geq 900. \quad (3.17)$$

Combining (2.15) and (3.17) in (3.16), we obtain

$$C_1(x) \leq 0.3075 \log x + 0.506, \quad \text{for } 900 \leq x \leq 10^8, \quad (3.18)$$

and

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \right| \leq 0.3075 \log x + 0.506, \quad \text{for } 900 \leq x \leq 10^8. \quad (3.19)$$

Unfortunately, (3.19) is not quite strong enough to give us our required result, and we must proceed as follows: for $k = 25$, (3.18) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{k}} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \right| &\leq 0.3075 \log \frac{x}{25} + 0.506 \\ &< 0.3075 \log x - 0.482, \quad \text{for } 22500 \leq x \leq 10^8. \quad (3.20) \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} = \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1} M(d) \left(\left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} / d - \left\{ \frac{x}{d+1} \right\} / (d+1) \right) - M\left(\frac{x}{k}\right) \frac{\left\{ \frac{x}{[\frac{x}{k}]} + 1 \right\}}{\left[\frac{x}{k} \right] + 1}.$$

Now,

and the number of nodes in the tree is $\Theta(n^{\frac{1}{2}})$.

Thus we expect to search over $n^{1/2}$ nodes in time $O(n^{1/2})$.

For $m = \Theta(n^{\frac{1}{2}})$ and $m = \Theta(n^{\frac{1}{3}})$, the algorithm is similar.

For

$$\text{if } m > n^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ then } m' = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil \text{ else } m' = \left\lceil \frac{n^{\frac{1}{2}} + m}{2} \right\rceil$$

we can use the same algorithm as above and hope to get a running time of $O(n^{\frac{1}{2}})$. However, since m' is not necessarily an integer, we have to make some changes.

$$\text{if } m' < \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil \text{ then } m' = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil \text{ else } m' = \left\lceil \frac{n^{\frac{1}{2}} + m}{2} \right\rceil$$

and we set $m = m'$ and $n = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil - m$.

Now we can proceed as above.

$$\text{if } m > n^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ then } m' = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil \text{ else } m' = \left\lceil \frac{n^{\frac{1}{2}} + m}{2} \right\rceil$$

and

$$\left(\frac{x}{d}\right)/d - \left(\frac{x}{d+1}\right)/(d+1) = \left(\left(\frac{x}{d}\right) - \left(\frac{x}{d+1}\right)\right)/(d+1) + \left(\frac{x}{d}\right)/d(d+1) .$$

As above, we note that $\left(\frac{x}{d}\right) - \left(\frac{x}{d+1}\right) = \frac{x}{d(d+1)}$ except for at most k values of d . For these exceptional values

$$|M(d)\left(\left(\frac{x}{d}\right) - \left(\frac{x}{d+1}\right)\right)|/(d+1) < \frac{|M(d)|}{d+1} < \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x/k}} = \frac{\sqrt{k}}{2\sqrt{x}} ,$$

where we use the fact that $M(d) < \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{d}$ for $\frac{x}{25} > 200$ and $x \leq 10^8$, i.e. for $5000 \leq x \leq 10^8$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left(\frac{x}{d}\right) \right| &\leq x \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1} \frac{|M(d)|}{d(d+1)^2} + \frac{k^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{x}} \\ &+ \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1} \frac{|M(d)|}{d(d+1)} + |M(\frac{x}{k})| / \frac{x}{k} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} x \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{d(d+1)^2}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\frac{x}{k} < d \leq x-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{d(d+1)}} \\ &+ \frac{k^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{k}}{2\sqrt{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{(k^{3/2} - 1)}{3\sqrt{x}} + \frac{(\sqrt{k} - 1)}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{k^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{k}}{2\sqrt{x}} . \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $k = 25$, we get

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{x \\ k}}^{} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \right| \leq \frac{332}{3\sqrt{x}} , \quad \text{for } 5000 < x \leq 10^8 ,$$

$$< 0.287 , \quad \text{for } 150,000 \leq x \leq 10^8 , \quad (3.21)$$

so that, with (3.20), we have

$$\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \left\{ \frac{x}{d} \right\} \right| \leq 0.3075 \log x - 0.195 . \quad (3.22)$$

Hence, using (3.22), (3.14), and (3.11) in (3.2) we have

$$\left| \frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2} - \frac{3}{\pi^2} \right| \leq 0.3075 \frac{\log x}{x} - \frac{0.079}{x} + \frac{1}{2x^2}$$

$$< 0.24 \times 10^{-4} , \quad \text{for } 150,000 \leq x \leq 10^8 . \quad (3.23)$$

So now we have only to check for $x < 150,000$.

3. The computer work. Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 are essentially due to R. S. Lehman [11], who gave the results for $h(n) = \lambda(n) = (-1)^r$, where $n = p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_r^{a_r}$.

Theorem 3.1. Let $H(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} h(n)$, $f(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} H\left(\frac{x}{n}\right)$. Then

$$H(x) = \sum_{m \leq x/w} \mu(m) \left\{ f\left(\frac{x}{m}\right) - \sum_{k < v} h(k) \left(\left[\frac{x}{km} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{vm} \right] \right) \right\} - \sum_{x/w < l \leq x/v} H\left(\frac{x}{l}\right) \sum_{\substack{m | l \\ m \leq x/w}} \mu(m) ,$$

$$(3.24)$$

where $1 < v < w < x$.

Proof. $f\left(\frac{x}{m}\right) = \sum_{n \leq x/mw} H\left(\frac{x}{mn}\right) + \sum_{x/mw < n \leq x/mv} H\left(\frac{x}{mn}\right) + \sum_{x/mv < n \leq x/m} H\left(\frac{x}{mn}\right)$.

Multiply each by $\mu(m)$, and sum for $m \leq \frac{x}{w}$.

$$1. \quad \sum_{m \leq x/w} \mu(m) \sum_{n \leq x/mw} H\left(\frac{x}{mn}\right) = \sum_{\ell \leq x/w} H\left(\frac{x}{\ell}\right) \sum_{\substack{m | \ell \\ m \leq x/w}} \mu(m) = H(x).$$

$$2. \quad \sum_{m \leq x/w} \mu(m) \sum_{x/mw < n \leq x/mv} H\left(\frac{x}{mn}\right) = \sum_{x/w < \ell \leq x/v} H\left(\frac{x}{\ell}\right) \sum_{\substack{m | \ell \\ m \leq x/w}} \mu(m).$$

$$3. \quad \sum_{m \leq x/w} \mu(m) \sum_{x/mv < n \leq x/m} H\left(\frac{x}{mn}\right) = \sum_{m \leq x/w} \mu(m) \sum_{x/mv < n \leq x/m} \sum_{k \leq x/mn} h(k)$$

$$= \sum_{m \leq x/w} \mu(m) \sum_{k < v} h(k) \sum_{x/mv < n \leq x/km} 1$$

$$= \sum_{m \leq x/w} \mu(m) \sum_{k < v} h(k) \left(\left[\frac{x}{km} \right] - \left[\frac{x}{vm} \right] \right).$$

Rearrangement of terms then yields the theorem. We note that, by choosing $v \approx x^{1/3}$ and $w \approx x^{2/3}$, if we have tables of $\mu(m)$ and $h(m)$ for $m \leq v$, $H(m)$ for $m \leq w$, and $\xi(\ell) = \sum_{\substack{m | \ell \\ m \leq x/w}} \mu(m)$ for

$\ell \leq \frac{x}{v}$, then the number of operations is proportional to $x^{2/3}$. The last-mentioned tables can readily be computed as the program progresses by adding $\mu([\frac{x}{w}])$ to each $[\frac{x}{w}]$ -th value of ξ whenever $[\frac{x}{w}]$ increases by 1.

The following slightly more complicated formula is in practice more efficient, cutting the time by about one half.

Theorem 3.2. Let

$$f(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} H\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad H(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} h(n) .$$

Let K' , L' , and M' range over positive odd integers, and I over positive integers. Then

$$\begin{aligned} H(N) &= \sum_{M' \leq N/w} \mu(M') \left\{ f\left(\frac{N}{M'}\right) - f\left(\frac{N}{2M'}\right) - \left(\sum_{I < v} h(I) \left(\frac{N+IM'}{2IM'} \right) - \frac{N+vM'}{2vM'} H(v-1) \right) \right\} \\ &- \sum_{\substack{N/w+1 \leq K' \leq N/v \\ L' \leq K' \\ L' \leq N/w}} H\left(\frac{N}{K'}\right) \sum_{L' \leq K'} \mu(L') , \quad \text{where } 1 < v < w < N . \end{aligned} \quad (3.25)$$

Proof. From $f(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} H\left(\frac{x}{n}\right)$ we get $f(x) - f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = \sum_{M' \leq x} H\left(\frac{x}{M'}\right)$.

The proof now follows as in Theorem 3.1, if we note that, if $k = 2^t \ell$, where $(\ell, 2) = 1$, then

$$\sum_{\substack{M' \mid k \\ (M' \text{ odd})}} \mu(M') = \sum_{m \mid \frac{k}{2}} \mu(m) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \ell = 1, \\ 0, & \text{if } \ell > 1, \end{cases}$$

so that, if k is odd,

$$\sum_{\substack{M' \mid k \\ (M' \text{ odd})}} \mu(M') = [\frac{1}{k}] ;$$

and also that the number of odd integers $\leq x$ is $[\frac{x+1}{2}]$.

Corollary.

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(N) &= \sum_{M' \leq N/w} \mu(M') \left\{ \frac{[\frac{N}{M'}] [\frac{N}{M'} + 1]}{2} - \frac{[\frac{N}{2M'}] [\frac{N}{2M'} + 1]}{2} - \left(\sum_{I \leq N-1} \varphi(I) \left(\frac{N+IM'}{2IM'} \right) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \frac{N+vM'}{2vM'} \Phi(v-1) \right) \right\} - \sum_{N/w+1 \leq K' \leq N/v} \Phi(\frac{N}{K'}) \sum_{\substack{L' \mid K' \\ L' \leq N/w}} \mu(L') . \quad (3.26) \end{aligned}$$

For

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \Phi\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) = \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{m \leq x/n} \varphi(m) = \sum_{n \leq x} \varphi(n) [\frac{x}{n}]$$

$$= \sum_{n \leq x} [\frac{x}{n}] n \sum_{d \mid n} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} = \sum_{d \leq x} d \sum_{k \leq x/d} \mu(k) [\frac{x}{kd}]$$

$$= \sum_{d \leq x} d = \frac{[x][x+1]}{2} .$$

A preliminary program was used to obtain $\mu(n)$ and $\varphi(n)$ for $n = 1$ to 60 and $\Phi(n)$ for $n = 1$ to 3600 on cards as data to be read into the machine for the main program based on (3.26)

We note that, since we are just interested in determining the minimum value of $\frac{\Phi(x)}{x^2}$, we can reduce the checking, and hence the computer time, by observing

$$\frac{\Phi(2n)}{(2n)^2} < \frac{\Phi(2n-1)}{(2n-1)^2}, \quad (3.27)$$

$$\frac{\Phi(6n-2)}{(6n-2)^2} < \frac{\Phi(6n-4)}{(6n-4)^2}, \quad (3.28)$$

and

$$\frac{\Phi(30n-24)}{(30n-24)^2} < \frac{\Phi(30n-26)}{(30n-26)^2}. \quad (3.29)$$

We prove (3.27); the others are proven similarly. Now,

$$\frac{\Phi(2n)}{(2n)^2} < \frac{\Phi(2n-1)}{(2n-1)^2} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \frac{\Phi(2n)}{(2n)^2} < \Phi(2n-1) \left(\frac{1}{(2n-1)^2} - \frac{1}{(2n)^2} \right),$$

i.e., if and only if, $\Phi(2n) < \Phi(2n-1) \frac{4n-1}{(2n-1)^2}$. Hence it suffices to prove

$$\Phi(2n) < \frac{2\Phi(2n-1)}{2n-1}.$$

But $\Phi(2n) \leq n-1$, while by (3.3),

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2\Phi(2n-1)}{2n-1} &> \frac{6}{\pi^2} (2n-1) - 2 \log(2n-1) - 2 - \frac{3}{2(2n-1)} \\ &= \frac{12}{\pi^2} n - 2 \log(2n-1) - (2 + 6/\pi^2) - \frac{3}{2(2n-1)} \\ &> n \quad \text{for } n \geq 61 ;\end{aligned}$$

and (3.27) is readily verified for $n = 1, 2, \dots, 60$.

Hence, we need only examine nine residue classes modulo 30, namely 0, 6, 10, 12, 16, 18, 22, 24, 28.

We were able to determine all values of $n \leq 150,000$ for which $R(n)$ is negative. These 286 values are given in Appendix II.

APPENDIX I

Fortran IV programs for examining $\frac{1}{x^2} \sum_{n \leq x} \varphi(n) - \frac{3}{\pi^2}$.

1. $\mu(n)$ on cards for $1 \leq n \leq 60$. Uses $\sum_{n \leq x} M(\frac{x}{n}) = 1$.

DIMENSION MU(60), MBIG(60)

MU(1) = 1

MBIG(1) = 1

DO 10 I = 2,60

NS = 0

L = I - 1

DO 20 J = 2, I

K = I/J

NS = NS + MBIG(K)

20 CONTINUE

MBIG(I) = 1 - NS

MU(I) = MBIG(I) - MBIG(L)

10 CONTINUE

WRITE (7,30) (MU(N), N = 1,60)

30 FORMAT (40I2)

STOP

END

2. $\Phi(n)$ and $\varphi(n)$ on cards. $\Phi(n)$ for $1 \leq n \leq 3600$, $\varphi(n)$ for $1 \leq n \leq 60$.

Uses $\varphi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)$.

DIMENSION NPR(505), LPHI(3600), NPHI(3600)

NPR(1) = 2

NPR(2) = 3

DO 20 I = 2,506

NPR(I+1) = NPR(I)+2

X = NPR(I+1)

NSR = SQRT(X)

11 DO 20 J = 2,NSR

IF (NPR(I+1) - (NPR(I+1)/NPR(J)) * NPR(J)) 20,10,20

10 NPR(I+1) = NPR(I+1)+2

X = NPR(I+1)

NSR = SQRT(X)

GO TO 11

20 CONTINUE

NPHI(1) = 1

LPHI(1) = 1

N = 2

43 LPHI(N) = N

DO 35 I = 1,N

IF (NPR(I)-N) 38,39,40


```
38 IF (N-(N/NPR(I)) * NPR(I)) 35,34,35
34 LPHI(N) = LPHI(N) * (NPR(I)-1)/NPR(I)
35 CONTINUE
39 LPHI(N) = N-1
40 NPHI(N) = NPHI(N-1)+LPHI(N)
78 N = N+1
      IF (N=3600) 81,82,82
81 GO TO 43
82 WRITE (7,41) (LPHI(J),J = 1,60)
41 FORMAT (10I8)
      WRITE (7,41) (NPHI(J),J = 1,3600)
      STOP
      END
```

3. $\Phi(x)$ using equation (3.26)

```
DIMENSION LPHI(60), NPHI(3600), MU(60), NS3(3600)
READ (5,42) (MU(J),J = 1,60)
42 FORMAT (40I2)
      READ (5,41) (LPHI(J),J = 1,60)
41 FORMAT (10I8)
      READ (5,41) (NPHI(J),J = 1,3600)
      READ (5,49) N
49 FORMAT (1X,I6)
      N1 = N/3600
```



```
DO 89 K = 1,3600
89  NS3(K) = 0
     DO 90 K = 1,N1,2
     DO 91 L = K,3600,K
91   NS3(L) = NS3(L)+MU(K)
90   CONTINUE
     IND1 = N-N1 * 3600
     INDEX = 0
43   N1 = N/3600
     N2 = N/60
     N3 = N1+1
     N3 = 1+(N3/2) * 2
     NS1 = 0
     NS4 = 0
     DO 20 M = 1,N1,2
     NS2 = 0
     DO 10 I = 1,59
     NS2 = NS2+LPHI(I) * (N+I*M)/(2*I*M))
10   CONTINUE
     NS2 = NS2-NPHI(59) * ((N+60*M)/(120*M))
     NS1 = NS1+MU(M) * (((N/M)*((N/M)+1)-N/(2*M))*((N/(2*M))+1)/2-NS2)
20   CONTINUE
     DO 30 K = N3,N2,2
     J = N/K
     NS4=NS4+NPHI(J) * NS3(K)
```


30 CONTINUE
NP = NS1-NS4
V = 2 * NP-1
Q = N * N
DIFF = (V/Q)-0.607927102
77 WRITE (6,80) N, NP, DIFF
80 FORMAT (1X,I6, I12,E20.10)
78 INDEX = INDEX+1
IF (INDEX-100) 59,60,59
60 WRITE (6,85) N
85 FORMAT (1X,I6)
INDEX = 0
59 N = N+1
IND1 = IND1+1
IF (IND1-3600) 96,97,96
97 LMN = N1+1
IF (LMN = (LMN/2)*2) 93,94,93
93 DO 98 M = LMN, 3600, LMN
98 NS3(M) = NS3(M)+MU(LMN)
94 IND1 = 0
96 CONTINUE
IF (N-150000) 81,82,82
81 GO TO 43
82 STOP
END

APPENDIX II

Values of n for which R(n) < 0 .

820	10,836	21,376	32,046	42,966	54,132	65,200
1,276	13,146	21,726	32,166	43,386	55,476	65,950
1,422	13,300	22,270	32,230	43,590	55,540	67,210
1,926	15,640	22,480	32,320	43,776	56,190	67,510
2,080	15,666	22,716	32,530	43,780	57,036	67,926
2,640	16,056	23,530	35,796	44,256	57,786	68,766
3,160	16,060	25,026	36,366	45,696	58,026	69,126
3,186	16,446	25,236	36,456	45,816	58,906	69,336
3,250	17,020	25,300	36,466	46,326	59,046	69,756
4,446	17,466	25,930	36,520	48,280	59,556	70,092
4,720	17,550	26,202	36,576	48,336	60,516	70,176
4,930	17,766	26,680	37,116	48,400	60,606	70,500
5,370	18,040	27,406	37,480	48,610	61,020	70,840
6,006	18,910	27,940	38,556	49,050	61,986	70,876
6,546	19,176	28,260	38,676	51,040	62,496	71,316
7,386	19,230	28,276	39,096	51,130	62,700	71,646
7,450	19,416	28,596	41,140	51,340	62,910	71,830
7,476	20,736	29,736	41,406	52,690	63,196	72,066
9,066	21,000	30,486	41,616	52,900	63,310	73,326
9,276	21,246	31,032	41,706	52,956	64,296	73,360
10,626	21,310	31,452	42,960	53,586	64,506	73,516

74,140	87,066	104,470	114,466	125,260	138,726
74,350	88,656	104,676	114,570	125,616	139,296
74,376	88,716	105,096	114,640	126,010	140,400
76,896	89,586	105,876	114,940	127,270	140,526
77,236	90,000	105,966	115,116	127,590	141,156
77,316	90,006	106,086	115,300	127,636	141,430
77,470	90,630	106,120	117,096	129,186	142,836
78,156	91,120	106,176	117,250	129,396	143,320
78,456	91,806	106,386	117,306	131,496	143,706
80,136	92,106	106,746	118,660	131,706	144,160
80,446	92,170	107,866	119,080	131,770	145,176
80,466	92,226	108,670	119,290	132,280	145,236
80,620	92,346	108,790	119,770	134,046	145,390
80,886	92,856	109,840	120,156	134,200	145,986
81,996	93,250	111,100	122,200	134,850	147,280
82,446	94,810	111,400	122,556	134,856	148,060
83,380	94,836	111,420	122,760	135,850	148,296
83,590	95,082	111,816	122,916	136,060	149,710
85,086	96,426	112,596	123,306	136,216	149,856
85,296	96,580	112,750	123,370	136,326	150,606
85,360	98,946	113,016	123,490	136,830	150,690
85,596	101,830	113,050	123,970	137,436	
85,816	101,916	113,646	124,776	137,866	
86,346	104,380	114,192	125,196	138,546	

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- [1] Bellman, R., and Shapiro, H. N., "The distribution of squarefree integers in small intervals", Duke Mathematical Journal, Vol. 21 (1954), 629-637. See also "On the normal order of arithmetic functions", Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Vol. 38 (1952), 884-886.
- [2] Cohen, E., "The number of representations of an integer as a sum of two squarefree numbers", Duke Mathematical Journal, Vol. 32 (1965), 181-185.
- [3] Cohen, E., and Robinson, R. L., "On the distribution of k-free integers in residue classes", Acta Arithmetica, Vol. 8 (1962/63), 283-293.
- [4] Erdős, P., "Some problems and results in elementary number theory", Publicationes Mathematicae (Debrecen), Tomus 2 (1951), 103-109.
- [5] Erdős, P., and Shapiro, H. N., "On the changes of sign of a certain error function", Canadian Journal of Mathematics, Vol. III (1951), 375-384.
- [6] Estermann, T., "On the representation of a number as the sum of two numbers not divisible by k-th powers", Journal of the London Mathematical Society, Vol. 6 (1931), 37-40.
- [7] Evelyn, C. J. A., and Linfoot, E. H., "On a problem in the additive theory of numbers", (Fourth paper) Annals of Mathematics, Vol. 32 (1931), 261-270.
- [8] Fogels, E., "On average values of arithmetic functions", Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, Vol. 37 (1941), 358-372.
- [9] Hackel, R., Sitzungsberichte, Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien, Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Klasse, Vol. 118 (1909), IIa, 1019-1034.
- [10] Halberstamm, H., and Roth, K. F., "On the gaps between consecutive k-free integers", Journal of the London Mathematical Society, Vol. 26 (1951), 268-273.
- [11] Landau, E., Vorlesungen über Zahlentheorie, II, Chelsea (1947).
- [12] Lehman, R. S., "On Liouville's function", Mathematics of Computation, Vol 14-15 (1960-61), 314-315.

REFERENCES

Adler, M.: 1974, 'The Nature of the Self-Concept', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 14 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Brown, R. M.: 1973, 'The Self-Concept and the Social Environment', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 13 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1975, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 15 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1976, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 16 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1977, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 17 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1978, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 18 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1979, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 19 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1980, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 20 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1981, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 21 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1982, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 22 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

Campbell, A. K.: 1983, 'The Self-Concept and the Self-System', in J. Spence and D. Spence (eds.), *Advances in Personal Psychology*, Vol. 23 (Academic Press, New York), pp. 1-52.

- [13] Mertens, F. "Über einige asymptotische Gesetze der Zahlentheorie", Journal für die reine und angewandte Mathematik, Vol. 77 (1874), 289.
- [14] Mirsky, L., "Arithmetical pattern problems relating to divisibility by r-th powers", Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society, Ser. 2, Vol. 50 (1948-49), 497-508.
- [15] Mirsky, L., "Note on an asymptotic formula connected with r-free integers", Quarterly Journal of Mathematics, Vol. 18 (1947), 178-182.
- [16] Neubauer, G., "Eine empirische Untersuchung zur Mertenscher Function", Numerische Mathematik, Vol. 5 (1963), 1-13.
- [17] Pillai, S. S., "On sets of square-free numbers", Journal of the Indian Mathematical Society, N. s. 2, (1936), 116-118.
- [18] Pillai, S. S., and Chowla, S. D., "On the error terms in some asymptotic formulae in the theory of numbers (I)", Journal of the London Mathematical Society, Vol. 5 (1930), 95-101.
- [19] Rankin, R. A., "On the theory of exponent pairs", Quarterly Journal of Mathematics, Ser. 2, Vol. 6 (1955), 147-153.
- [20] Richert, H.-E., "On the difference between consecutive square-free numbers", Journal of the London Mathematical Society, Vol. 29 (1954), 16-20.
- [21] Rogers, K., "The Schnirelmann density of the squarefree integers", Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, Vol. 15 (1964), 515-516.
- [22] Roth, K. F., "On the gaps between squarefree numbers", Journal of the London Mathematical Society, Vol. 26 (1951), 263-268.
- [23] Saltykov, A. I., "On Euler's Function", Vestnik Moskovskogo Universiteta, Serija I, Matematika, Mekhanika 1960, No. 6, 34-50.
- [24] Sarma, M. L. N., "On the error term in a certain sum", Proceedings of the Indian Academy of Science, Section A, Vol. 3 (1931), 338.
- [25] Selberg, S., "Über die Summe $\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu(n)}{n}$ ", Det Kongelige Norske Videnskabers Selskabs Forhandlinger (Trondheim) Vol. 28 (1955), 37-41.
- [26] Sierpinski, W., "Über Produkte aus lauter verschiedenen Primfaktoren", Roczniki Polskiego Towarzystwa Matematycznego, Ser. II, Wiadomości Matematyczne, 1959, 204-206.

- [27] von Sterneck, D., Monatshefte für Mathematik und Physik, Vol. 9 (1898), 43-45.
- [28] Sylvester, J. J., Collected Works, Vol. IV, p. 84.
- [29] Vaidya, A. M., "On the changes of sign of the error function connected with square-free numbers", Mathematics Student, Vol. XXXIII, #4 (Oct.-Dec. 1965), 5.
- [30] Waage, E., "Zur Tschebyschef'schen Primzahlentheorie", Sitzungsberichte, Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien, Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Klasse, Vol. 122, Abt. IIa (1913), 701-719.
- [31] Waage, E., "Zur Tschebyschef'schen Primzahlentheorie II", Sitzungsberichte, Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien. Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Klasse, Vol. 123, Abt. IIa (1914), 493-510.
- [32] Walfisz, A., Akademija Nauk Gruzinskoi S. S. R. Trudy Tbilisskogo Matematičeskogo Instituta im. A. M. Razmadze, Vol. 19 (1953), 1-31.

B29860